

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

493

November 7, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor David Meier on Monday, November 7, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of City Hall, 11 LaFayette Street. Notice of this meeting was sent to Council on November 3, 2005 and posted at City Hall. Notice of this meeting was also published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor David Meier, Robert Roberts, Mark Kopp, Dennis Nero, Steven Skok, Gelindo Bonfardine, Thomas Farley, and David Greene, City Manager

VISITORS

Visitors included: Bob Makufka, Joe Stefanelli, Gary L. Auman, Sally Geyer, Richard Sadley, Don Williams, Art Hillebrand, Rudy Catalone, Bill Kraus, Jim Heary, Greg Muhitch and Veronica Conrad

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
OCTOBER 17, 2005

Dennis Nero made a motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2005, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENTS  
ON AGENDA TOPICS

Mayor Meier stated that most of the citizens present will be heard later on during the agenda concerning the 100' Aerial Platform Apparatus bid and the Humane Society's animal shelter. There were no other comments from citizens on agenda topics.

ITEMS THAT NEED ACTION  
Award of Bid

100' Aerial Platform  
Fire Apparatus

The following five bids for the 100' Aerial Platform Fire Apparatus were opened during a public meeting held on September 26, 2005:

Smeal Fire Apparatus.....	\$805,409.00
Pierce Fire Apparatus.....	\$914,472.00
KME Fire Apparatus.....	\$799,932.00
Sutphen Fire Apparatus.....	\$780,613.00
Seagrave Fire Apparatus....	\$898,945.00

A letter was received from the Crystal Fire Department recommending that the award for the 100' Aerial Platform Fire Apparatus be awarded to KME Fire Apparatus in the amount of \$799,932.00. The low bid from Sutphen Fire Apparatus did not meet the Fire Department's specifications.

Manager Greene stated that a grant application has been submitted to the Homeland Security Department which would cover 50% of the cost of the fire apparatus. He suggested that the bid be awarded to KME Fire Apparatus with the stipulation that the Homeland Security be contacted concerning the grant. The Manager also stated that on Wednesday, the cost of the fire apparatus could increase.

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**Consider for Adoption**  
Ordinance No. 212 re:  
Police Pension Plan  
Update

Dennis Nero made a motion to award the bid for the 100' Aerial Platform Fire Apparatus to KME Fire Apparatus, with the contingency plan to check on the Homeland Security grant. The motion was seconded by Robert Roberts and all were in favor.

Ordinance No. 212 was presented amending the City of St. Marys Police Pension Plan to update the plan for recent changes to the Internal Revenue Code applicable to the plan. Steven Skok made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 212, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

Ordinance No. 213 re:  
Non-Uniformed Pension  
Plan Update

Ordinance No. 213 was presented amending and restating the pension plan for the benefit of the City's full-time employees other than Police Officers, utilizing a corporate fiduciary, continuing a pension fund and providing for its management and maintenance, continuing administrative procedures, and continuing requirements and criteria for coverage, benefits, vesting and rights of participants.

Gelindo Bonfardine made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 213, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.

Resolution No. 05-20  
re: Washington St./  
Elk Haven Interceptor  
Relocation

Resolution No. 05-20 was presented for the Washington Street/Elk Haven Interceptor relocation. The City is requesting an Infrastructure Development Grant in the amount of \$75,950. from DCED on behalf of Advanced Recycling Equipment, Inc. for the relocation of a sanitary sewer line to their facility.

Mark Kopp made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 05-20, seconded by Robert Roberts, and all were in favor.

Resolution No. 05-21  
Authorizing the paving  
and assessments of  
several City roads

Resolution No. 05-21 was presented authorizing the paving of West Theresia, Baumer, Thunder, Sumar, West Eschbach, and Benzinger Roads, as well as the assessment of the cost thereof upon the abutting owners.

Thomas Farley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 05-21, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor, except Mayor David Meier and Dennis Nero who opposed. The motion passed by majority vote.

**Consider for Publication**  
Ordinance No. 214 re:  
EMS Tax

Ordinance No. 214 was presented amending portions of Chapter 24 of the St. Marys City Code renaming the "Occupational Privilege Tax" as the "Emergency and Municipal Service Tax", increasing the amount of the tax, and instituting collection procedures for the Tax Collector.

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Thomas Farley made a motion to publish Ordinance No. 214, seconded by Robert Roberts, and all were in favor, except Mayor David Meier who opposed. The motion passed by majority vote.

Request from Marienstadt  
re: Christmas Event

A letter was received from the Marienstadt Corporation on behalf of Goetz's Flowers and St. Marys Hardware, requesting use of a portion of the Depot Street Parking Lot on Wednesday, December 7, 2005 from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. to host a Christmas Event for children.

Robert Roberts made a motion to approve the request of the Marienstadt for the Christmas Event for children, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

Request from Marienstadt  
and Chamber re: Light-up  
Night

A letter was received from the Marienstadt Corporation and the Chamber of Commerce requesting use of the Diamond for Light-up Night on Friday, November 18, 2005 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. They also requested use of a portion of the Depot Street Parking Lot on November 18th from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for Light-up Night activities. Their letter also requested free parking in the downtown area to begin a week earlier.

Dennis Nero made a motion to approve the request of the Marienstadt and Chamber of Commerce to use the Diamond on November 18th from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and also the Depot Street Parking Lot on November 18th from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor, except Mayor David Meier who abstained. The motion passed by majority vote.

Elk County Humane  
Society re: Animal  
Shelter

Joe Stefanelli

Joe Stefanelli, of the Elk County Humane Society, presented an Amended Lease Agreement for the society's proposed animal shelter to be located behind the City's Maintenance Building. The parcel of land being requested is located about 90 feet north of the original site. The mines at this location have collapsed and were reconstructed. This would put the proposed building on more solid ground.

The original Lease Agreement dated March 15, 2004 would be amended as follows:

- The City agrees to increase the size of the leased property by 0.82 acres to a total of 2.91 acres in the northerly direction.



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- The Society plans to remove a portion of the hill bordering the original northern boundary and deposit the earth on the hillside north of the existing roadway, identified as "the Grade". They plan to construct the animal shelter on the Grade and the excavated area of the hill, and relocate the road parallel to and north of the building.
- All other provisions of the original Lease remain unchanged.

Don Williams

Don Williams questioned if it was feasible to have the access road leading to the proposed shelter off of Bruxelles Street.

Dennis Nero made a motion to approve the Humane Society's Amended Lease Agreement for the parcel they have now added for a total of 2.91 acres. The motion was seconded by Robert Roberts.

After a brief discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Mark Kopp, Gelindo Bonfardine, and Thomas Farley voted in the negative. Dennis Nero, Robert Roberts, Steven Skok, and Mayor David Maier voted in the affirmative. The motion passed by majority vote.

Free Parking  
November 18, 2005  
to December 26, 2005

Steven Skok made a motion to have free parking in downtown St. Marys from November 18, 2005 thru December 26, 2005, seconded by Robert Roberts, and all were in favor, except Thomas Farley who opposed. The motion passed by majority vote.

Organizational Meeting  
in January, 2006

The City's organizational meeting date was set for January 3, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Subdivision Application  
Marienstadt Place,  
Depot Street Parking  
Lot

A motion was made by Dennis Nero to approve the Subdivision Application for the Marienstadt Place, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

This subdivision splits Depot Street Parking Lot into two parcels. Lot 1 will be the site of a future elderly housing complex, which will include a Senior Center. Lot 2 is projected to encompass Phase II, which is planned to consist of 19 retail shops, 25 apartments and a two story parking garage.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION  
Increase Per Capita  
Tax Exemption

Mayor Meier felt Council should consider raising the exemption for the Per Capita Tax to \$12,000. when working on the budget.

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Increase Parking Fines  
to \$5.00

Mayor Meier stated the Hyett Palma Study recommended that parking fines be increased from \$2.00 to \$5.00.

Free two-hours  
parking on-street

Mayor Meier stated the study also recommended that free two hour parking at on-street stalls be considered and that the City hire a group, that deals with parking, to put together a long-term plan for the City.

Thomas Farley was strongly against all free parking until the Parking Authority pays off all their notes and suggested that if the Downtown Blueprint Committee can produce a plan to pay off all the Parking Authority's notes, they should present it to Council.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Steven Skok stated that on November 17th, two public meetings will be held at City Hall regarding a feasibility study and for citizens comments concerning Kaulmont Park. The meetings have been scheduled for 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Dennis Nero commended Manager Greene, staff, Planning Commission, Parking Authority, and anyone else involved in establishing the Marienstadt Place one-step proposal that will improve the infrastructure in St. Marys.

Gelindo Bonfardine suggested that the newly elected Council get together with surrounding communities to set the same date and time for trick or treating.

Robert Roberts encouraged everyone to vote tomorrow, Election Day.

Mayor Meier asked the Manager if Warren Stewart and the Downtown Blueprint Committee ever met with him and City staff regarding snow removal? He was informed that no-one has contacted the City.

Mayor Meier asked if Mark Kopp's question at the last Council meeting to enforce the recent parking changes have been taken care of? Mr. Kopp explained that the signs on Charles Street that say "No parking 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m." should be replaced with "No Parking" signs to make them agree with the City's Ordinance.

Mayor Meier asked if the trees along Benzinger Road are going to be trimmed. Since the trees are close to the road, this could create a safety hazard when it rains or snows.

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Gelindo Bonfardine asked if the trees on Center Street between the Library and North Michael Street are going to be trimmed, stating it has been three years since they were last trimmed. The Manager will notify the Shade Tree Commission.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Meier made the following announcements:

- Next Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 21, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.
- Congratulations to Emily Riddle PIAA State Champion and the Boys and Girls Double A Cross Country - District Champs
- Support the United Way Community Drive
- Downtown Partnership Community Forum will be held November 10th 7:00 p.m. at the Shiloh Presbyterian Education Building.
- City Council will be holding a budget meeting on Thursday, November 10th at 7:00 p.m.
- Good Luck SMAHS Football Squad - D9 AAA Championship Game

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dennis Nero to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

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Mayor

Shirley Dicklas  
Recording Secretary